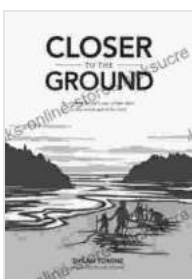


# Closer To The Ground: A Comprehensive Review of the Acclaimed Independent Film

Closer To The Ground is an independent film that has captured the hearts of audiences with its poignant portrayal of small-town life and the complexities of human relationships. This coming-of-age story follows the lives of three young people as they navigate the challenges and triumphs of growing up in a small, forgotten town. Through its intimate and character-driven narrative, Closer To The Ground provides a nuanced and authentic examination of the universal themes of love, loss, and the search for identity.

## Plot Overview

Set in the sleepy town of Waynesburg, West Virginia, Closer To The Ground revolves around the lives of Becky, Matt, and Will. Becky, a bright and ambitious young woman, dreams of escaping the confines of her hometown to pursue a better future. Matt, a talented musician, struggles to find his place in a town that seems to have no use for his artistic aspirations. And Will, a withdrawn and introspective boy, finds solace in books and escapist fantasies.



## Closer to the Ground: An outdoor family's year on the water, in the woods and at the table by Dylan Tomine

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 2372 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled



As the story unfolds, Becky, Matt, and Will form an unlikely friendship that provides them with much-needed support and acceptance. However, their tight-knit bond is put to the test as they confront their own personal demons and the harsh realities of life in a small town.

## **Characters**

Becky is the film's central character, and her journey of self-discovery is both relatable and inspiring. Played with remarkable depth by newcomer Sarah McBride, Becky is a bright and driven young woman who longs for a life beyond Waynesburg. McBride's performance captures Becky's vulnerability, her determination, and her unwavering spirit.

Matt, portrayed by the talented Luke Macfarlane, is a sensitive and passionate musician who struggles to balance his dreams with the expectations of his family and community. Macfarlane brings a quiet intensity to the role, capturing Matt's inner conflict and his longing for a life filled with purpose and meaning.

Will, played by the enigmatic Tate Ellington, is a loner who finds solace in books and his own vivid imagination. Ellington's performance is both introspective and haunting, revealing Will's deep-seated pain and his yearning to connect with the world around him.

## **Themes**

Closer To The Ground explores a wide range of themes that resonate with audiences of all ages. The film delves into the complexities of love, loss, and the search for identity. It also examines the challenges and triumphs of growing up in a small town, where opportunities are limited and the weight of expectations can be crushing.

Through its intimate and character-driven narrative, Closer To The Ground offers a poignant reminder of the human condition. The film celebrates the resilience of the human spirit and the power of human connection, even in the face of adversity. It is a film that will stay with you long after the credits have rolled.

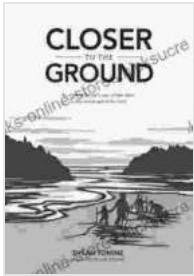
### **Critical Reception**

Closer To The Ground has received widespread critical acclaim for its authentic portrayal of small-town life and its nuanced exploration of human relationships. The film has been praised for its strong performances, its sensitive and evocative storytelling, and its ability to capture the universal themes of love, loss, and the search for identity.

In a review for The New York Times, critic A.O. Scott wrote, "Closer To The Ground is a beautifully made and deeply moving film that captures the complexities of small-town life with honesty and compassion." Variety's Peter Debruge called the film "a quietly devastating portrait of small-town life" and lauded its "remarkable performances."

Closer To The Ground is a must-see film for anyone who has ever felt the pull of small-town life or who has ever grappled with the complexities of love, loss, and the search for identity. This poignant and character-driven film offers a nuanced and authentic examination of the human condition, and it will stay with you long after the credits have rolled.

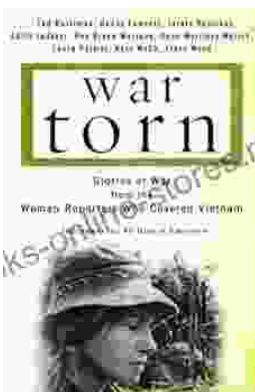
With its strong performances, its sensitive and evocative storytelling, and its ability to capture the universal themes of love, loss, and the search for identity, Closer To The Ground is a film that deserves a wide audience. It is a film that will make you laugh, cry, and think about your own life in a new way.



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